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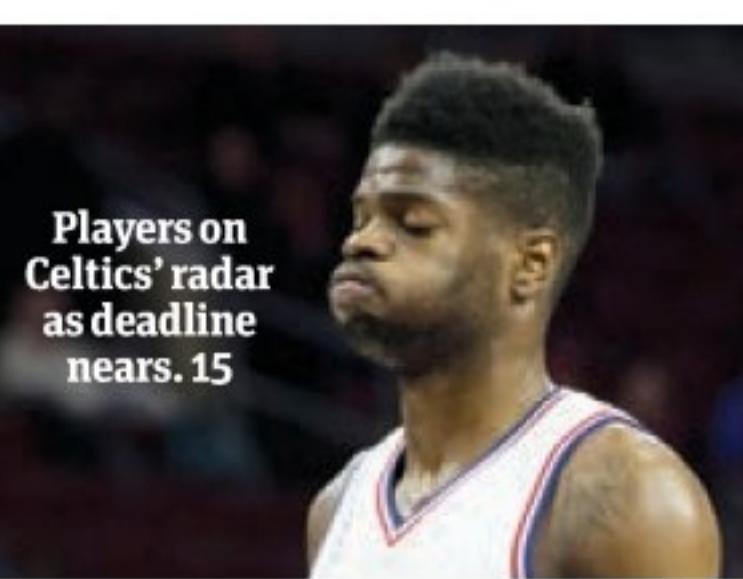
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metro

BOSTON NO. 1 FREE DAILY IN THE US

Thursday, December 22, 2016 metro.us | t: MetroBOS | f: MetroBoston



Players on
Celtics' radar
as deadline
nears. 15

COUNTDOWN TO COCKTAILS

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Vote in Metro's Girl Scout
Cookie poll! 6-7

THE LORD GIVETH IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS

Anonymous donor gives church \$100K winning lottery ticket. 4



ISTOCK PHOTO ILLUSTRATION



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1. What did St. Anthony Shrine get from an anonymous donor?
2. Which players may the Celtics target in a trade?
3. What restaurant did Drake and Jennifer Lopez have dinner at this week?

3 things you need to know

GERMAN POLICE HUNT ASYLUM-SEEKER OVER MARKET ATTACK

I German police are looking for an asylum-seeker from Tunisia after finding an identity document under the driver's seat of a truck that plowed into a Berlin Christmas market and killed 12 people, officials and security sources said on Wednesday. The federal prosecutor's office offered a reward of up to \$104,000 for information leading to the capture of the suspect, whom it identified as 24-year-old Anis Amri. "Beware: He could be violent and armed!" the prosecutor's office said in a statement, in which it described Amri as 5'8" tall, with black hair and brown eyes. Amri's father and security sources told Tunisia's Radio Mosaique that he had left Tunisia seven years ago as an illegal immigrant and had spent time in prison in Italy. REUTERS



US SAYS 6.4M SIGNED UP FOR OBAMACARE FROM NOV. 1 TO DEC. 19

2 Roughly 6.4 million consumers signed up for Obamacare insurance on Healthcare.gov from Nov. 1 to Dec. 19 indicating "clear demand for quality, affordable coverage," the U.S. government said on Wednesday. The number of people signing up for Jan. 1, 2017, coverage during this period represents an increase of 400,000 compared with the same period a year ago, the government said. Total plan selections through the extended deadline of Dec. 19 include 2.05 million new consumers and 4.31 million returning consumers actively renewing their coverage. Healthcare.gov sells plans for 39 states while the other states run their own exchanges. REUTERS

FACEBOOK: GOVERNMENT REQUESTS FOR ACCOUNT DATA RISE 27 PERCENT

3 Facebook Inc. said on Wednesday that government requests for user account data rose 27 percent in the first half of 2016 compared to the second half of last year, with U.S. law enforcement agencies topping the list. Government requests for account data globally rose to 59,229 from 46,710 and more than half contained a non-disclosure order that prohibited the social networking website from notifying users. Requests for content restriction, the number of items restricted for violating local laws, decreased by 83 percent from the second half of 2015, Facebook said in a blog post. The Paris attacks in November last year elevated the number of content restriction requests. REUTERS



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METRO.US
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2016



DEREK KOUYOUMLIAN / METRO

Boston helps small businesses become more entertaining

"Acoustic on Main" is intended to provide an economic boost to merchants and musicians.

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Hoping to provide an economic boost to small businesses and local performers in a city filled with both, Mayor Marty Walsh on Wednesday signed an ordinance expanding Boston's Acoustic on Main program.

The measure allows businesses to host live performances without having to pay for an entertainment license or jump through bureaucratic hoops.

The city first enacted Acoustic on Main as a pilot program in April 2015, intended to boost the local economy after the treacherous winter kept many residents from shopping or dining out.

Back then, it was a

10-night event open only to businesses involved with the Main Streets programs, a network of 20 organizations focused on helping the commercial districts in different Boston neighborhoods. The city held a few of those 10-night events throughout the year, restricting the hours, from 4 to 9 p.m.

"We wanted to open it up for anyone with a creative spirit or who wants to do something special for the holidays."

Michelle Wu

The events were a success, officials and business owners said, and now the new ordinance has been expanded to year-round and the hours extended from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. It will go into effect Jan. 1, and participating businesses do not have to be part of the Main Streets program.

Olives & Grace, a South End gift boutique, participated in Acoustic on Main

last year, hosting several live performances. Owner Sofi Madison said it was a perfect fit.

"Instead of tying music to a specific type of industry, I think it's more about the character of the business," she said. "As a small business that supports other small businesses and artists, in this case, we

were finally able to support local musicians."

Madison said that she would consider getting a live entertainment license — which costs about \$100 and requires a hearing — but the new ordinance is far better, she said. When it takes effect, Madison said the measure will have a "ripple effect" throughout the city.

Michelle Wu, president of Boston City Council,

worked with the mayor on the new ordinance.

"Having live entertainment, whether it's a guitar player, as folks are shopping for groceries, or a small band during dinner [at a restaurant], helps to get foot traffic up and really gives customers a reason to shop local," she said. "We heard from small businesses that this was a really great marketing tool for them."

The approval process for obtaining a live entertainment license had been daunting for small businesses that only hosted live performances infrequently, she said.

"Most of the businesses that have live entertainment licenses do this often," she said. "We wanted to open it up for anyone with a creative spirit or who wants to do something special for the holidays."

As much as this program is for these businesses, Wu emphasized that it's also about creating more economic opportunities for local musicians.

2 FREE PHONES

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BRIEF

Father saves daughter's Christmas gifts from burning home

Just four days before Christmas, eight people lost everything in a three-alarm blaze at a sober house in Lynn.

But when the flames woke resident Mike Walsh, his first thought was to grab his daughter's Christmas presents as he made his escape, WCVB reported.

"It's the first thing I grabbed. I almost ran out the house, and



DAMIAN DRELLA/TWITTER

I thought, 'Let me grab those,'" Walsh told the station.

The fire completely destroyed the building and most everything inside, but all eight residents escaped uninjured, WBZ reported.

"That's all that matters. Everyone made it out and from there, everything else can be replaced," Walsh told WBZ.

A firefighter at the scene took photos of flames jumping through the roof of the Chestnut Street home. ERIN TIERNAN



Statue of Jesus on the Cross Outside St. Anthony's Shrine GETTY IMAGES

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Mystery donor gives \$100K lottery ticket to St. Anthony Shrine

A church staffer said the anonymous donor has a "heart bigger than Fenway Park."



KRISTIN TOUSSAINT
kristin.toussaint@metro.us

The Christmas spirit appears to be very much alive and well in Boston — an anonymous donor gave a \$100,000 winning lottery ticket to St. Anthony Shrine.

The mystery benefactor dropped off the lottery ticket on Monday, said Friar Tom Conway, executive director of the downtown Catholic church. He said even he doesn't know the donor's identity.

Conway went to collect the winnings at the Braintree lottery office in his friar robes.

"That was a weird experience because I sort of expected for somebody to come up and say, 'What are you doing here?'" Conway said, laughing. "Friars shouldn't be gambling, so why are you cashing a big winning ticket?"

Everything went smoothly, he said, and the money is already being put to good use.

St. Anthony Shrine relies heavily on donations.

The Franciscan friars church's finances are autonomous from the Boston Archdiocese, and the 11-story building on Arch Street is home to a lot of programs that benefit different communities in the city, such as the homeless.

"It was really generous in a few ways," Conway said. "First, the amount of money is ridiculously generous, really very kind, and another way is that he didn't restrict the gift for anything in particular."

The church does get a few large donations throughout the year to help supplement its \$4.3 million budget, but Conway said that most of those donors specify what sort of programs they want their money to help.

This anonymous angel told Conway to use it for whatever they need.

Every year, St. Francis Church buys groceries for 500 families at Christmas time. The church will also host a veterans lunch on Dec. 27. And of course, it holds multiple worship services around the holidays, which feature professional musicians who need to be paid.

The \$100,000 has helped cover all of these expenses.

For the expanded version, visit metro.us.

"With all of the bad news in the world, they like that somebody is this generous."

Tom Conway



St. Anthony Shrine

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MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24

4:00 p.m. • 4:15 p.m. • 5:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m. • 10:00 p.m. • Midnight

Music at all Masses.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 25

6:00 a.m. • 7:30 a.m. • 9:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m. • 11:15 a.m.

Noon Mass in Spanish • 12:30 p.m.

Shrine will close at 2 p.m.



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¹ www.dopedirectory.com

² <http://www.thecannabist.co/2015/07/01/washington-state-pot-law-overhaul-marijuana-tax-reset-at-37-percent/37238/>

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NYC teen aims high during 100th year of Girl Scout Cookies

Girl Scout Cookie season is underway and ends Jan. 22; online sales run from Jan. 3 to April 15.



AMANDA MIKELBERG
@MetroNewYork
amanda.mikelberg@metro.us

To honor the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scout Cookie, one of the country's top cookie sellers has set her sales goal at 1,000 boxes — crushing her 2014 record of over 700 boxes.

"My entire living room gets flooded with Girl Scout Cookies. I put little thank you notes on each box," 15-year-old Jeovanna DeShong-Conner told Metro. "You have to be organized. You have to be networking —

finding connections for people who are want to take the [order forms] to their jobs."

The Brooklyn teen gets her foot in the door early where people tend to gather and are in charitable moods, such as her godmother's church choir rehearsal. She also engages in passive promotion by simply wearing her Girl Scout sweatshirt to school in at Poly Prep Country Day School in Bay Ridge.

"A lot of people want to buy cookies just from that," she said.

The century-old tradition to raise money for the troop activities and supplies began in 1917 with their first recorded bake sale, just five years after the first meeting of the Girl Guide troop in Savannah, Georgia.

Which cookie is your favorite?

In this 100th year of Girl Scout cookie sales, Metro would like to know which is your favorite among the many varieties. Cast your vote in the Metro poll at Metro.us/girl-scout-cookies

Operation cookie went coast-to-coast in 1937, contracting bakers from around the country to produce for the Girl Scout Cookie boxed brand.

Now only two bakers share the cookie production — both coming up with their own version of the new S'mores cookie for 2017.

In 2015, the Girl

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"I have seen so many generations of girls who have gone on to do big things, and I really want to live up to that."

DeShong-Conner

Jeovanna DeShong Carter plans to crush the competition with her goal of 1,000 boxes. GIRL SCOUTS OF GREATER NEW YORK

Scouts of America made \$800 million in cookie sales. Scouts sold 1.274 million boxes of cookies in the Greater New York area alone, said Meridith Maskara, who runs the cookie program as chief operating officer of Girl Scouts of New York. She added that Samoas and Thin Mints remain all-time favorites.

A big driver is the two-year-old Digital Cookie platform that allows girls to set up their own on-

line sales portals.

"These girls learn the language of business, and by the time they are in high school, or when they go for that first job they have an advantage over other applicants. They don't have to be trained in customer service — they already have those people skills, money skills, business ethics," Maskara said.

"The girls on the executive committee are the brightest and have origi-

nal methods, like scheduling appointments to do a sales pitch to a board room, and sell very confidently to the people who would make some of us adults pass out," she said.

DeShong-Conner is a member of that Executive Cookie Committee, a roundtable of the country's top saleswomen. She said her intention this year goes beyond moving cookies to focus more on the girls behind the boxes.

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Cialis 20mg	16	\$109.99	Plavix 75mg	90	\$31.99
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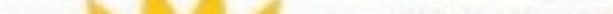
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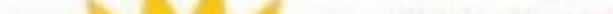
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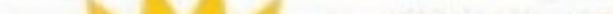
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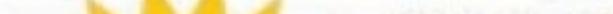
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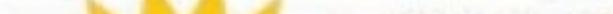
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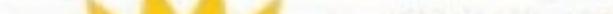
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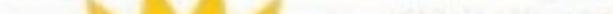
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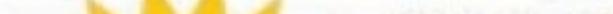
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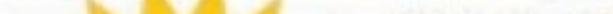
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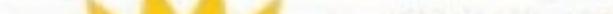
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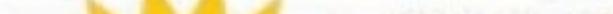
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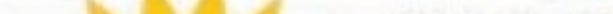
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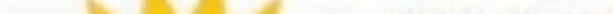
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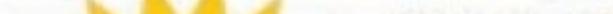
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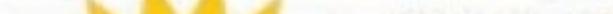
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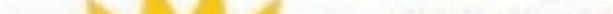
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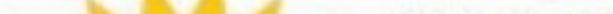
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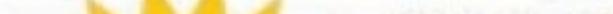
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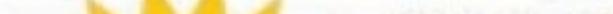
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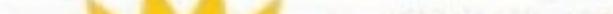
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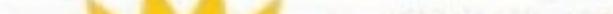
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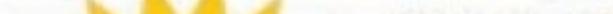
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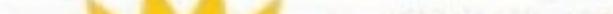
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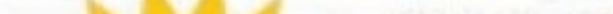
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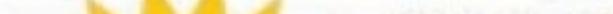
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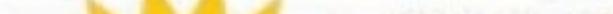
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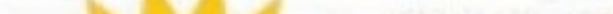
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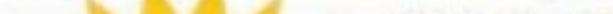
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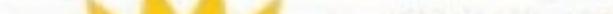
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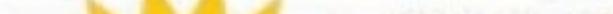
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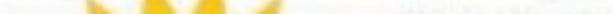
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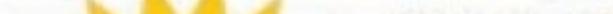
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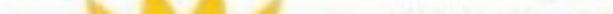
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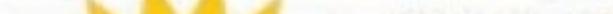
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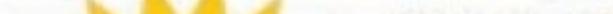
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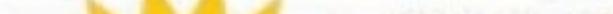
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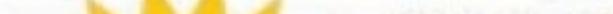
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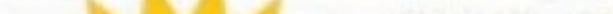
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Our theories about J. Lo and Drake

The latest piece of gossip from the rumor mill is that Jennifer Lopez and rapper Drake are dating. According to "Entertainment Tonight," they had dinner together at the West Hollywood restaurant Delilah on Monday evening, and last week Drake posted a selfie of the pair with a heart-eye emoji underneath it. This is the kind of rumor that should excite us — two huge celebs hooking up — but it just



doesn't. This year has been taxing enough without having to wrap our heads around such an unlikely couple. So we're offering some alternative theories on what's going on. J. Lo is staging an elaborate Marc Anthony distraction. If you'll recall, J. Lo gave her ex-husband an onstage smooch at the Latin Grammys, and less than a

week later Anthony and his wife announced their separation. J. Lo is clearly getting back with her ex but wants to avoid taking the blame for his divorce. Thinking quickly on her feet she cozied up to the first unsuspecting but eligible bachelor to show up to her Las Vegas residency, Drake. Meanwhile, Champagne Papi still spends his nights writing texts to Rihanna that he never sends because she still hasn't responded to the one from a month ago. He thinks being spotted out with J. Lo will catch Rihanna's attention. He's wrong.

Lena Dunham's at it, again



Lena Dunham enjoys the taste of her own foot in her mouth. Most recently, the 30-year-old writer, actress and self-proclaimed feminist had

to apologize for a joke that she made about abortion, of all things. During the Dec. 14 episode of her Women of the Hour podcast, Dun-

ham shared her experience visiting a Planned Parenthood in Texas. While there, Dunham felt compelled to make it clear that while she supported people's right to choose, she had never had an abortion herself. A closer examination of this position revealed to Lena, that she, too, had internalized stigma about abortion. Recalling this event Dunham changed her approach to the topic ended the podcast with, "Now I can say that I still haven't had an abortion, but I wish I had." Because abortion is one of the hardest decisions that people have to make, many found Dunham's conclusion to be insensitive. She issued a full apology on her Instagram account saying that her comment was "distasteful" and the result of a "delusional girl" persona that she uses. We kind of picked up on that.

Heidi Klum makes falling look good

It's a known fact that supermodels often possess ballerinalike grace in order to master their body movements. Although Klum has added businesswoman, actress, host and designer to her résumé, Monday she proved that she's still got those model bones. Since making her singing debut on "America's Got Talent Holiday Spectacular" by performing a rendition of "Santa Baby" with crooner contestant Sal Valentini, Klum has been making headlines for falling. The spin-gone-wrong didn't trip Klum up one bit, and on second look, we're wondering if she really fell at all. Klum obviously wasn't mortified by her tumble.



She posted a video clip of the performance on her Twitter account, capturing the whole incident. So was this a part of the act? I think

there is a strong case to be made for this being a choreographed, twirl-to-the-ground move that went way over our heads.

the WORD

SESALI BOWEN
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Tamar Braxton shades 'The Real'

Tamar Braxton, her singing sisters and their mom visited the "T.D. Jakes Show" on Tuesday. The youngest Braxton sister was asked about "The Real," the talk show she co-hosted before an abrupt departure in May. The producers of the show released a statement saying the decision for Braxton to leave the show was mutual, but some cryptic Instagram posts and footage from her "Braxton Family Values" show imply that she was fired. T.D. Jakes mentioned that the ratings for "The Real" have declined since Braxton left and she dramatically pretended to catch a "holy spirit" saying "Oh Lord, ain't that terrible. Lord Jesus ... Save 'em Jesus. Resuscitate!"

Translation: I'm actually unbothered by this news. In the caption to the video clip, which she posted on her Instagram, Braxton insists she wasn't being messy. But we know shade when we see it. You're not fooling us, honey. Check out the clip at metro.us

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Looking back on a bumpy 2016

Geek Girl in Hollywood



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It's been a challenging year, to say the least. OK, fine — it totally sucked. Big time. I don't know about you, but I'm holding my breath until it's over. It's certainly been a wild year for entertainment. Let's take a look at some of the big moments of 2016:

Celebrity deaths

If there is anyone left, I think we should wrap them in fluffy blankets and put them in a bunker until Jan. 1. We've lost so many celebrities, from actors to musicians and comedians. Here's a tiny sampling: David Bowie, Prince, Alan Rickman, Garry Shandling, Doris Roberts, Anton Yelchin, Muhammad Ali, Garry



Felicity Jones' Jyn Erso in "Rogue One" was one of the few great things to happen in 2016. JONATHAN OLLEY

Marshall, Florence Henderson, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Alan Thicke — I can't go on. I really don't know how the list compares to other years, but it certainly seems far longer than usual.

"SNL" revival

"Saturday Night Live" has had its ups and downs over the years, but this year it got back on point. The cast is great, the sketches are better

(mostly), but its sendup of the farce that we called an election has been brilliant. Alec Baldwin's portrayal of Donald Trump is so dead-on that even the president-elect can't help but complain like a toddler about it on Twitter. Kate McKinnon has nailed her portrayals of both Kellyanne Conway and Hillary Clinton. If you didn't tear up during her version of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" (there's yet another celebrity this

vile year has stolen from us), you have no heart.

"Star Wars" continues to conquer

White supremacists decided to boycott "Rogue One" because it actually had women and people of color in it. Well, the whiny babies didn't exactly do any damage — the film blew away the competition at the box office. Whether or not you see a deeper meaning in the Rebel Alliance fighting the Empire, the franchise just added a pretty damn good chapter.

Yes, 2016 sucked, but at least there are a few things going for us. I didn't even mention the comfort the Obama/Biden memes have brought the world, or the way TV has reflected our feelings of impending doom. While 2017 may be even worse, as "Rogue One's" Jyn Erso said, "Rebellions are built on hope."

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The best thing I ate this year

things
to do

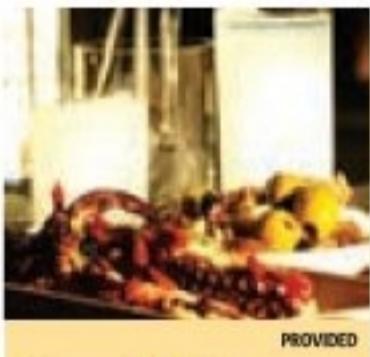
WHERE TO EAT, DRINK & PLAY

You can only pick one.



RACHEL RACZKA
rachel.raczka@metro.us

This year we launched an exciting new column in all three of our cities called Eat Like an Insider. In it, we asked food folks we found interesting — restaurateurs, chefs, bartenders, entrepreneurs — to share their favorite places and things to eat in each of our respective cities. The column (in my humble opinion) was a success, and we're excited to continue the concept in 2017 — but first, we went back to our brave group of participants and asked them just one last question: What was the best thing you ate this year?



Casey White,
founder,
Jaju Pierogi

The octopus served on top of pea puree and fried capers at Committee. Just phenomenal.



Vanessa White,
founder,
Jaju Pierogi

Any summer night at KO Pies at the Shipyard. Curly vegetable pie with a side of peas and mashed potatoes with a craft beer on the harbor.



Lauren Vigdor,
beverage director,
River Bar and
The Independent

The pastrami sandwich and salted averna egg cream from Mamaleh's.



Jason Santos,
owner and chef,
Abby Lane and
Back Bay Harry's

The Istanbul raviolis (manti) at Little Donkey. I still dream about them.



Andy Husbands,
owner and chef,
Tremont 647 and
Smoke Shop

The tomato and peach salad with whipped rosemary-infused yogurt at Porto. It was mind-blowing. It was like a cool breeze on a hot summer day.

Will Gilson,
owner and chef,
Puritan & Co.

The best dish that I ate this year was the shima aji at Bar Mezzana. It is perfection.



Harmony Dawn,
founder, **Booze**
Époque

This is so difficult! Such a toss-up! But, it's gotta go to Little Donkey's miso banana bread toad-in-the-hole for a brunch treat or Hops Test Kitchen's kale pappardelle with pork heart, beef tongue and Parmesan. Don't make me choose!



Courtney Vivian,
event coordinator,
Coppersmith

The banana rum French toast from Olde Magoo Saloon in Somerville! It's the perfect midmorning indulgence that you cannot skip!



DEREK KOUYOUJIAN

Robert Differ,
pastry chef, **Bar**
Boulud Boston
at the **Mandarin Oriental Hotel**

The 1905 Salad at Columbia Restaurant in St. Armand's Circle, Sarasota, Florida — I head down to Anna Maria Island to thaw every January and this restaurant is a total gem! This salad, originated in 1905, is one of those salads that makes it easy to pass on a more deluxe, indulgent entrée. It is made tableside, and tossed with iceberg lettuce, ham, turkey, Swiss cheese, green olives, nothing too crazy ... but the dressing, made with copious amounts of garlic, Worcestershire sauce and more than a few secrets, is amazing! Throw in sunny al fresco seating, amazing Spanish sangria, and watch the fabulous people and Bentleys go by in this swanky part of town. C'est magnifique!



PROVIDED

Brian Poe, chef and owner, **Bukowski Tavern (Cambridge)** and **The Tip Tap Room**

My two favorite meals this year were from Tavern Road and Smoke Shop. Both places have so much to offer, but what really surprised me at Tavern Road were the chickpea fritters and the eggplant fritters — which is stunning because I never choose vegetables as my favorite! Smoke Shop has everything I love to eat but the dish that made me stop in my tracks was the wings.



LAUREN O'NEIL

Jess Willis, chief operating officer, **The Independent Restaurant Group**

The best thing I ate this year was dinner at Fat Hen. I loved every minute of being there. The rigatoni with rabbit sausage was a standout dish, but we ate everything on the menu on that first visit, and every dish was perfect. The space is cozy, service is impeccable and food is remarkable. It was the most memorable dinner of the year for me.



DEREK KOUYOUJIAN



Geoff Thompson, beer czar, **Foundry on Elm and Saloon**

This year I discovered that B.T.'s Smokehouse in Sturbridge has the best BBQ in New England, and literally the best smoked beef brisket. A bonus is the central location to destination breweries such as Treehouse, Rapscallion and Homefield — and B.T.'s is BYOB, which will help you rehydrate after playing disco golf all day.

Deirdre Auld, director of operations, **the Coda Group**

The best thing I ate this year was Mamaleh's in Kendall Square. It's by the team that owns State Park, and the reuben, cheese blintzes and potato latkes are to die for. Everything on the menu is incredibly old-school and authentic, right down to the Brooklyn Egg Cream.

YOUR WEEKEND STARTS NOW

MUSIC

The Christmas Revels

This long-running, very Cambridge-y Christmas tradition is a unique holiday offering combining theater, music, dance, storytelling and sing-along. Each year there's a different theme; this time, Revels travels to Acadian, or, more properly, Cajun Louisiana, featuring the culture's rousing folk music as well as perennial Revels favorites like "Sussex Mummers Carol" and "Lord of the Dance." Through Dec. 27 Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge \$25-\$64, <http://bit.ly/1MYRWuO>

Grimis

Local band Grimis steps up for some post-Christmas grooves in a typically barren week for rock shows. The quartet, active for over a decade, does a good amount of instrumental jamming, mixing rock and jazz sensibilities without turning into the sort of easy-going funk connoted by the tags "jam" or "fusion." It's a unique sound, somehow chill and edgy at the same time.

Dec. 26, 7 p.m.
Middle East Downstairs, 480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
\$10-\$12, 18+, <http://bit.ly/2h72210>

DANCE

"Tony Williams' Urban Nutcracker"

Tony Williams' annual holiday production, unique to the Boston performing arts scene, is a constantly-changing mash-up of music and dance styles. This version of the Nutcracker takes place in modern Beantown, with the traditional roles of Clara and Fritz changing to Clarice and Omar, performed by several pairs of local kids. Through Dec. 31 Back Bay Events Center, 180 Berkeley St., Boston \$25-\$85, <http://bit.ly/1HzYGNm>

MOVIES

Shane Black's Christmas

Director Shane Black has set most of his action films during the holiday season, just because it heightens the emotional impact for him. This gives the Brattle an excuse to show them this week as a rather unusual holiday series. It started Wednesday, but tonight and Friday still promise "Iron Man 3," "The Long Kiss Goodnight," "The Nice Guys" and "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang." Through December 23 Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge \$9-\$13, <http://bit.ly/2i1Jill>

KIDS' ENTERTAINMENT

Disney on Ice:
Dare to Dream

What to do with the kids when their usual babysitter, the public school system, is closed? If they like Disney, here's one option, featuring a variety of vignettes featuring Disney princesses old and new. They'll go nuts. Kudos to the skaters who have to wear those giant masks while they perform their routines—they must've drawn the short straw.

Dec. 23 through Jan. 1 Agganis Arena, 925 Comm. Ave., Boston \$10-\$100, <http://bit.ly/2hMyPqZ>



FELD ENTERTAINMENT

"Jack Frost"

Not to be confused with the bizarre 1998 Michael Keaton family film "Jack Frost," in which a dead father comes back to life as a snowman, this 1997 horror film concerns a dead serial killer who comes back to life as a snowman. Which film is more frightening is perhaps a matter of taste. This one certainly has more blood.

Dec. 23, 11:59 p.m.
Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Cambridge
\$12, <http://bit.ly/2gYL8P4>

KIDS' ENTERTAINMENT

"James and the Giant Peach"

Parents who were fond of Roald Dahl as children will jump at the chance to show their own kids a Dahl tale in theatrical form, and the American Repertory Theater has picked a particularly weird tale from Dahl's weird oeuvre: the adventures of an orphaned boy and his insect friends who get around in, yes, a giant peach. Why not, right?

Through Dec. 31 Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge \$20, <http://bit.ly/2fyWALK>

ART

Shoes: Pleasure and Pain

Humans are the only animals that wear shoes—if you see another animal in shoes, it's probably because a human put them on that animal. And, as this exhibition of shoes past, present and future shows, we have been

wearing them for a long time. And we've been wearing a lot of different kinds, some of which, in the modern age, are surprisingly high-tech.

Through March 12 Peabody Essex Museum, 161 Essex St., Salem \$12-\$20, <http://bit.ly/2bGMfpY>

William Merritt Chase

Victorian-era American painter William Merritt Chase's work, ranging from portraits to landscapes to still lifes, is every bit as captivating as that of his more famous contemporaries, like Whistler or Sargent. He was also an important teacher, spreading impressionism in America and teaching such masters as Georgia O'Keefe and Edward Hopper.

Through Jan. 16 Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston \$23-\$25, <http://bit.ly/2csKjlo>

DJ NIGHTS

Emo Night Boston

You're in your late 20s/early 30s. You loved emo as a teenager, but you had no idea how emo life would eventually become, what with student loans, crushed economic expectations and sudden rent hikes. Well, worry not, emo night is here for you, spinning all the classics, even in the holidays, which everyone knows can get wicked emo.

Dec. 22, 9:30 p.m.
The Sinclair, 52 Church St., Cambridge Free, 21+, <http://bit.ly/2hWzTYP>

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JAN 20

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BRAD SHERWOOD

JAN 21

BERT KREISCHER

JAN 21

SAVAGE LOVE LIVE

JAN 25

OLD SCHOOL GAME SHOW

FEB 4

VALERIE JUNE

FEB 7

ILIZA

FEB 10

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FEB 11

JOSH GARRELS &

MARK MCMILLAN

FEB 21

DAVID DUCHOVNY

FEB 22

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JIM BREUER

FEB 25

STEVE HACKETT

FEB 26

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Fri. & Sat., Jan. 20 & 21

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Featuring Roberta Gambarini

Thurs., Jan. 26

RALPH PETERSON REUNION SEXTET

Featuring Sean Jones, trumpet;
Tia Fuller, saxophones;
Walter Smith III, saxophones;
Luques Curtis, bass;
Zacca Curtis, piano

Thurs., Jan. 5

KENNY WERNER & CHRIS POTTER

Fri., Jan. 6

IGOR BUTMAN

Thurs., Jan. 12

JOEY DeFRANCESCO

Fri., Jan. 13

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Sat., Jan. 28

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Above and right: Tiger Mama's already decadent interiors will be glammed up for New Year's Eve. PROVIDED

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Here are our picks for where to ring in the New Year.



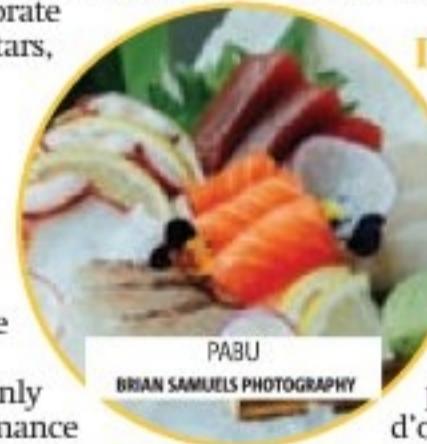
RACHEL RACZKA
rachel.raczka@metro.us

Sushi deluxe

PABU, the culinary crown jewel of the new Millennium Tower, will offer a tasting menu featuring Chef Benjamin Steiger's most indulgent dishes — including "Happy Spoon" oysters, foie gras gyoza, Japanese A5 Wagyu and O-Toro with caviar. There will be two seatings (5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. for \$95 and 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. for \$135) with the option for beverage pairings. *Three Franklin St., Floor Two, reservations recommended, 857-327-7228.*

Tutu good

The Boston Ballet will present closing night of "The Nutcracker" with a special New Year's Eve twist. The company's annual extravaganza will incorporate guest stars, unique props and costume surprises into the one-night-only performance of Mikko Nissinen's show, for an artsy preparty indulgence that sends you out the door well before midnight. *7:30 p.m., Boston Opera*



PABU
BRIAN SAMUELS PHOTOGRAPHY

House, 538 Washington St., tickets start at \$45, bostonballet.org

Southern fried

The Sinclair is offering a down-home Nashville-inspired four-course meal with hot chicken, Tasso ham and battered and fried locally grown dill. (Don't know it, til you try it.) The \$60-a-head ticket will also grant you a boozy dessert and drink, like the Bushwhacker De Lynchie,

which they describe as a "Wendy's Frosty, but of the alcohol variety." Nashvillians (and unfortunately named) Diarrhea Planet will perform at the venue later that night and tickets are available for an additional fee. *52 Church St., Cambridge, tickets required, sinclaircambridge.com.*



But you need to bring that boogie yourself. 10 p.m., 1363 Boylston St., tickets required, tigermama-boston.com

A fanciful affair

Juliet in Union Square will transform its dining space into the decadent Eastern-inspired night-club from "The Thin Man," a favorite of co-owner Katrina Jazayeri. The film will be projected as a backdrop for the party, while your \$50 ticket buys you light snacks, two drinks, a champagne toast and all-night access to the most Instagrammable spot in town. *10:30 p.m., 257 Washington St., Somerville, tickets required, julietssomerville.com*

Pour it up

Back Bay Harry's wins New Year's Eve because it will be hosting a toast to Rihanna and Drake and the couple that nearly was all night long. Chef Jason Santos' pun-ified three-course prix fixe features Pon De Replay Papusa, Disturbia Striped Bass and Hot Line Bling Beignets, with Champagne Papi cocktails available a la carte. And, of course, they recommend you come dressed to "work, work, work, work, work, work." *\$75, starting at 6 p.m., 142 Berkley St., reservations recommended, backbayharrys.com*

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Fodor's Travel

Georgia is so far off the tourist track that if you mention you're headed there, you'll probably get an earful on peaches and Savannah, not the tiny country sandwiched between Europe and Asia that shares the same name. But now more than ever, in-the-know travelers are buzzing about its many unsung attractions: glaciated peaks that dwarf the Alps, mysterious cave cities hewn into mountainsides and amber wines that the world's top sommeliers can't stop talking about. To seal the deal, Georgia is affordable these days — half-the-price-of-Europe affordable — which means there's no better time to catch a flight to the Caucasus.

Breathtaking mountains

Although Georgia is smaller than South



The country, that is. GETTY IMAGES

Carolina, four of Europe's 10 tallest mountains can be found there, and on a clear day, you can see snowy peaks from almost anywhere in the country. Well-marked trails and affordable mountaineering packages draw alpinists, both amateur and expert, from around the world. But you don't need to lace up your hiking boots to make the most of the Cauca-

sus. Consider galloping on horseback through mountain passes at Zeta Camp, hiking to Chaladi Glacier in Mestia, whitewater rafting in Borjomi, or off-road driving in Tusheti with Inter Georgia Travel.

East-meets-West cuisine

For centuries, Georgia occupied a strategic location along the Silk

Road that linked China to the Mediterranean, and as merchants passed through the Caucasus, Georgia's culinary repertoire broadened to adopt new ingredients and techniques from both continents. Most meals start with a Mediterranean-style cucumber and tomato salad drizzled with oil. But then the pendulum might swing east with a dish like khinkali, soup dumplings

with fenugreek-spiced filling. Then India might spring to mind as you tear off a piece of shotis puri, a naanlike bread baked to chewy perfection on the walls of a tandoor. But certain flavors are unmistakably Georgian, like walnut-thickened stews, grassy sulguni cheese or puckering tkemali, an addictive plum compote that's an ideal counterpoint to grilled meats.

Polyphonic folk music

Complex harmonies are not reserved for concert halls in Georgia; you're just as likely to hear a spellbinding performance around a dinner table. These polyphonic folk songs can be lively or somber, depending on the mood, but the stories they tell chronicle the nation's precious oral history from pre-Christian times to the present. There's a terrific little ensemble called Zedashe that's worth seeking out; if their tour dates don't align with your schedule, they sometimes have impromptu jam sessions at Pheasant's Tears winery in Sighnaghi.

Seaside towns

Georgia may be known for its soaring peaks, but the oft-overlooked Black Sea coast is worth adding to the itinerary, particularly when it's warm outside and the bars along the rocky

Continued on page 14

An advertisement for Aruba. The top left features the Aruba logo with the tagline "One happy island". The main headline reads "YOUR SHORTCUT TO NEW HORIZONS" with a red star graphic. Below it, the text "Daily non-stop flights from Logan Airport." is displayed. At the bottom, a couple is shown standing on a rocky outcrop overlooking a bright blue ocean. The text at the bottom reads: "From rugged deserts ready to be explored to pristine white-sand beaches primed for relaxation, Aruba offers something to make everyone happy. Hop on a direct flight to the island with the most sunny days in the Caribbean. Plan your perfect SHORTCUT TO HAPPINESS today at aruba.com" and the Aruba logo.

Continued from page 13

beaches come to life. Batumi, the country's most popular resort, is the Las Vegas of Georgia — all neon lights, casinos and nightclubs. Tranquility is easier to find farther north in villages like Grigoleti, whose beaches of fine magnetic sand are said to be therapeutic for the bones and joints.

Prehistoric cave cities

Georgia is home to three major cave complexes: Uplistsikhe, Davit Gareja and Vardzia. The oldest, and closest to Tbilisi, is Uplistsikhe, dating back to the early Iron Age. Its twisty, irregular rock formations call to mind Gaudi's naturalist works. Farther east, the still-active Davit Gareja monastery complex, with colorful frescoes and desert views into neighboring Azerbaijan, is a more enriching experience, provided you have the better part of a day to spare (the Gareji Line is the most comfortable way to get there). Vardzia lies even farther afield, but its labyrinthine network of 235 chambers



The entire capital city of Tbilisi turns out for the annual Tbilisoba Arts Festival. **VANO SHLAMOV, AFP**

are awe-inspiring.

World-class museums

In 1991, a group of archaeologists excavating Dmanisi, in southern Georgia, uncovered the oldest human remains found in Eurasia to date. You can see the "1.8-million-year-old girl" at the Georgian National Museum in Tbilisi as part

of the permanent collection, which also includes a trove of prehistoric jewelry and a thought-provoking exhibition on the Soviet occupation. For those who are especially curious about the latter, the Stalin Museum in Gori — his birthplace — offers excellent guided tours through immense collections of Communist-era paraphernalia, including Stalin's armored

railway carriage

Whirlwind dances

Focus on a Georgian dancer's legs as he's performing, and you may notice an unexpected adornment: kneepads. They come in handy in the Mtiuluri mountain dances that require the men to jump into the air, twirl around and land squarely on their knees.

Equally spectacular are the ethereal Kartuli numbers, in which a female dancer glides across the stage in a large, billowy dress, creating the illusion of hovering. Sukhishvili National Ballet is the country's premier dance company, but if they're out of town (they usually are), don't fret: The choreography on display at Tsiskvili, a fine-dining restaurant on the

outskirts of the capital, will keep you transfixed for an entire evening.

Fantastic skiing

Georgia is one of the world's best bargains when it comes to skiing and snowboarding. Altitudes here surpass those of the Alps, but at about \$12 per day, lift tickets are a fraction of what you might pay Stateside or in Europe. There are six ski resorts in Georgia but Gudauri, located two hours north of Tbilisi, eclipses the competition with 35 miles of slopes to traverse. Their heli-ski tours, suitable for only the most intrepid athletes, give skiers the rare opportunity to barrel down a mountainside from 13,000 feet.

Highest settlement in Europe

The village of Ushguli is just 30 miles from Mestia, the closest town, but it takes three hours to reach because of the death-defying roads. If you brave the bumpy ride, though, you'll have reached the highest continually inhabited community in Europe. Up here, livestock roams freely, horses are the preferred mode of transportation, and locals converse in an endangered language that's been spoken for four millennia. Peculiar thousand-year-old towers, once used to defend against invading tribes, dot the skyline, and on a clear day, you can see past them to Mount Shkhara, the highest peak in Georgia, which looms 17,000 feet above the landscape.

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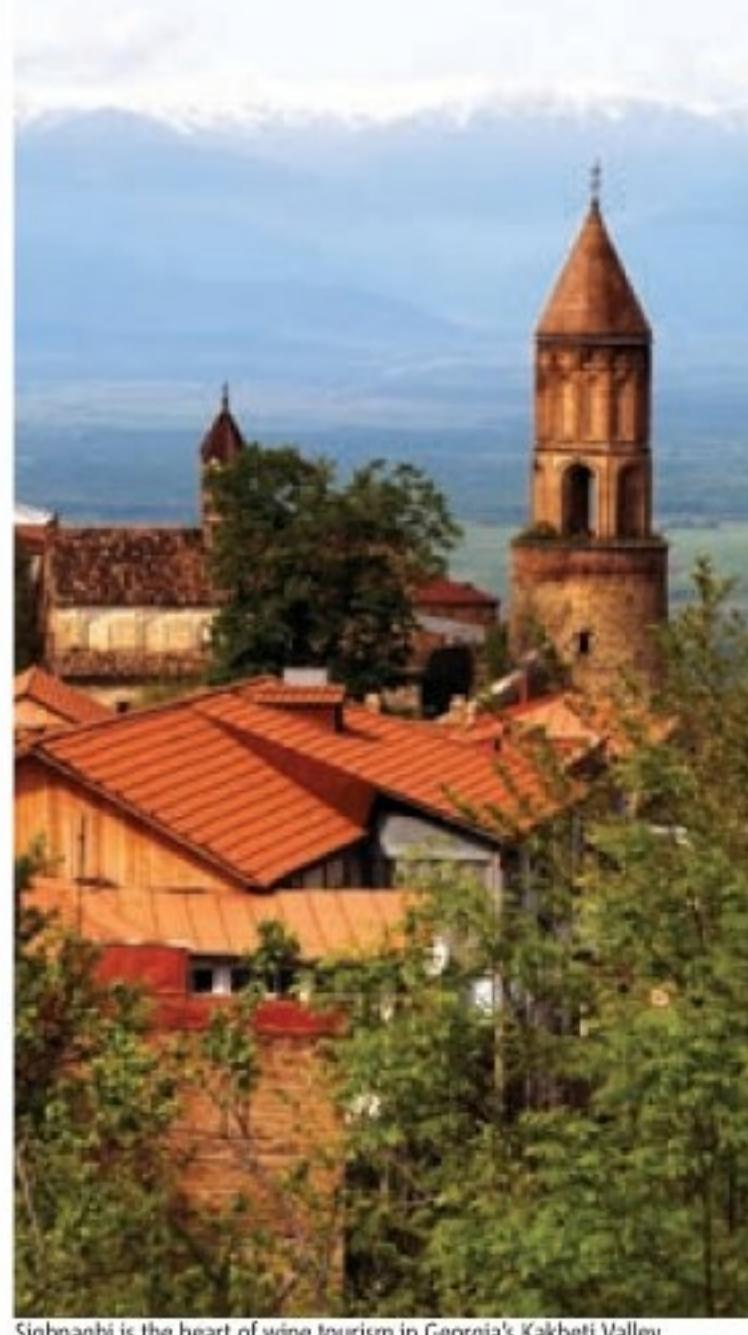
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Sighnaghi is the heart of wine tourism in Georgia's Kakheti Valley.
LEISA TYLER, LIGHTROCKET

Celtics trade options: Noel, Cousins, Nurkic

The Celtics, if they continue to play well, will have some big decisions to make.

JAMES TOSCANO
@Jimmy_Toscano
sports@metro.us

It took 28 games, but the Celtics finally got their statement game after Tuesday's big overtime win over the Memphis Grizzlies on the road.

After scoring just 31 points in the first half, the C's offense came alive behind Isaiah Thomas' career-high 44 points.

It was Boston's first win of the season against a team with a .600-plus winning percentage, and certainly one to build off of.

So is the team we saw on Tuesday the one we can expect to see going forward? Or is it the one we saw too many times during the first 27 games?

Those are the questions Celtics president of basketball operations Danny Ainge and his staff have to figure out.

The Celtics find themselves in third place in the Eastern Conference, which is where many think they belong. In order to improve upon that, they may need to look outside of their current roster for help.

Everybody knows Ainge will be busy on the phones leading up to the trade deadline. So which teams might be on the



If the Celtics can win as much as fans and front office members think they should, a big February trade could be in the cards. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

other line? Let's take a look at a few potential options.

1 DeMarcus Cousins

Sacramento Kings

It feels like Cousins has been linked to the Celtics forever. That isn't to say he's been available, though. But as it becomes clear that the inept Kings are once again not a playoff team,

it may be time for them to finally part ways and get real value back while they still can. There's no doubt Cousins is one of the most talented players in the NBA. At 6-foot-11, he can score from all over the court any way he wants. He's averaging 18.3 points and 10.7 rebounds. So why might he be available? He comes with baggage and what many consider a bad attitude.

Cousins has had more than his fair share of on-and off-court drama. The Celtics would have to give up a lot to acquire him with the hope that Boston can change him for the better. The risk is that he's stuck in his ways and the C's are stuck with a bad apple and no supporting cast.

2 Nerlens Noel

Philadelphia 76ers

A deal for Noel might make more sense for the Celtics if Ainge can get the 76ers to bite. Noel is healthy again after rehabbing his knee injury, but that hasn't equaled much playing time. Sixers head coach Brett Brown has to choose between three young big men for two spots, and Noel has been the odd man out — and Noel isn't happy

about it, expressing his frustration to the media. Noel, a Massachusetts native, would be a nice fit as a defensive-minded center, and the C's certainly have the pieces to make something work.

Noel averaged 8.1 rebounds per game through his first two NBA seasons and there's no reason to think he won't improve upon that going forward. The 76ers will look to trade either Noel or Jahlil Okafor at some point.

3 Jusuf Nurkic

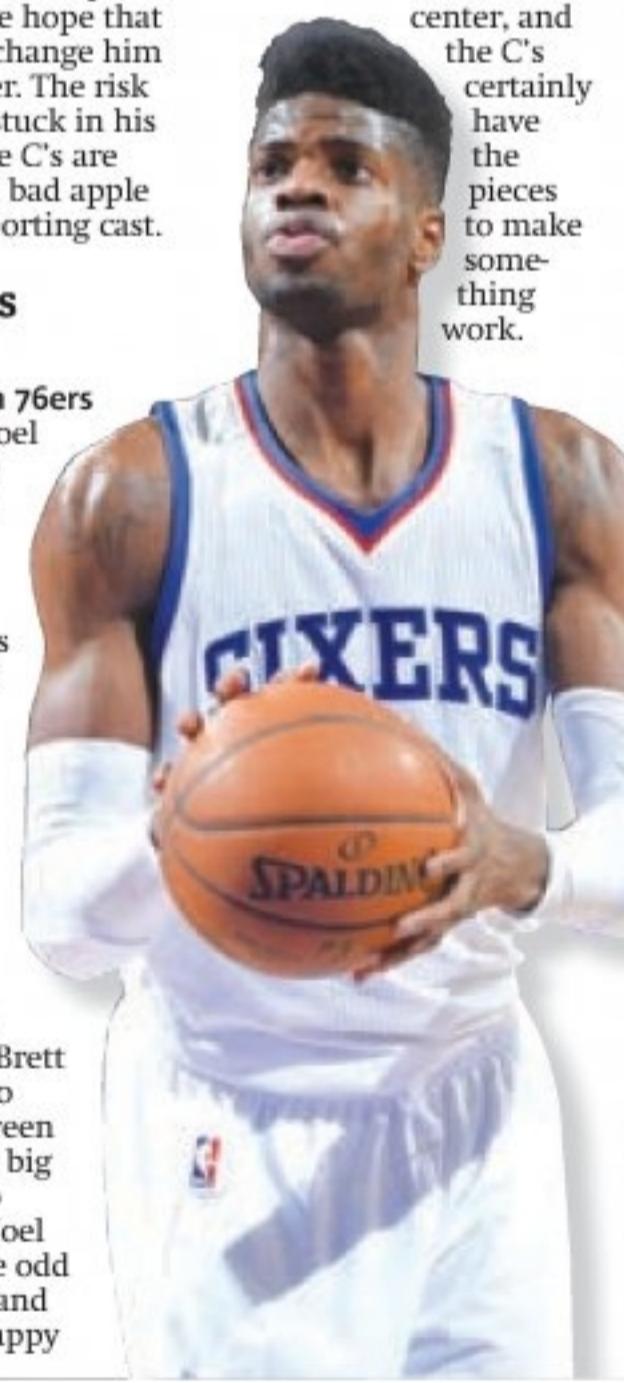
Denver Nuggets

Nurkic is Denver's 22-year-old, 7-foot, 280-pound center who just so happens to be the second-best big man on his team behind the now starting Nikola Jokic. Like Noel in Philadelphia, Nurkic is seeing a lot more time on the bench than he should be and in fact did not even step on the court on Monday. He's way too skilled to be earning DNP-Coach's Decisions, so if he can't flourish in Denver, perhaps he can in Boston. The Nuggets will certainly be active up to the trade deadline. Expect to see both Kenneth Faried and Danilo Gallinari in trade rumors — and both potential options with the Celtics, too.

Bounceback for Bruins?



Boston suffered one of its most embarrassing losses of the season to the Islanders earlier this week. They'll look to prove they have short memories when they host the Panthers on Thursday night at 7:30 on NESN. GETTY IMAGES



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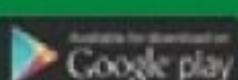
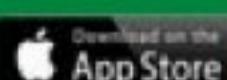
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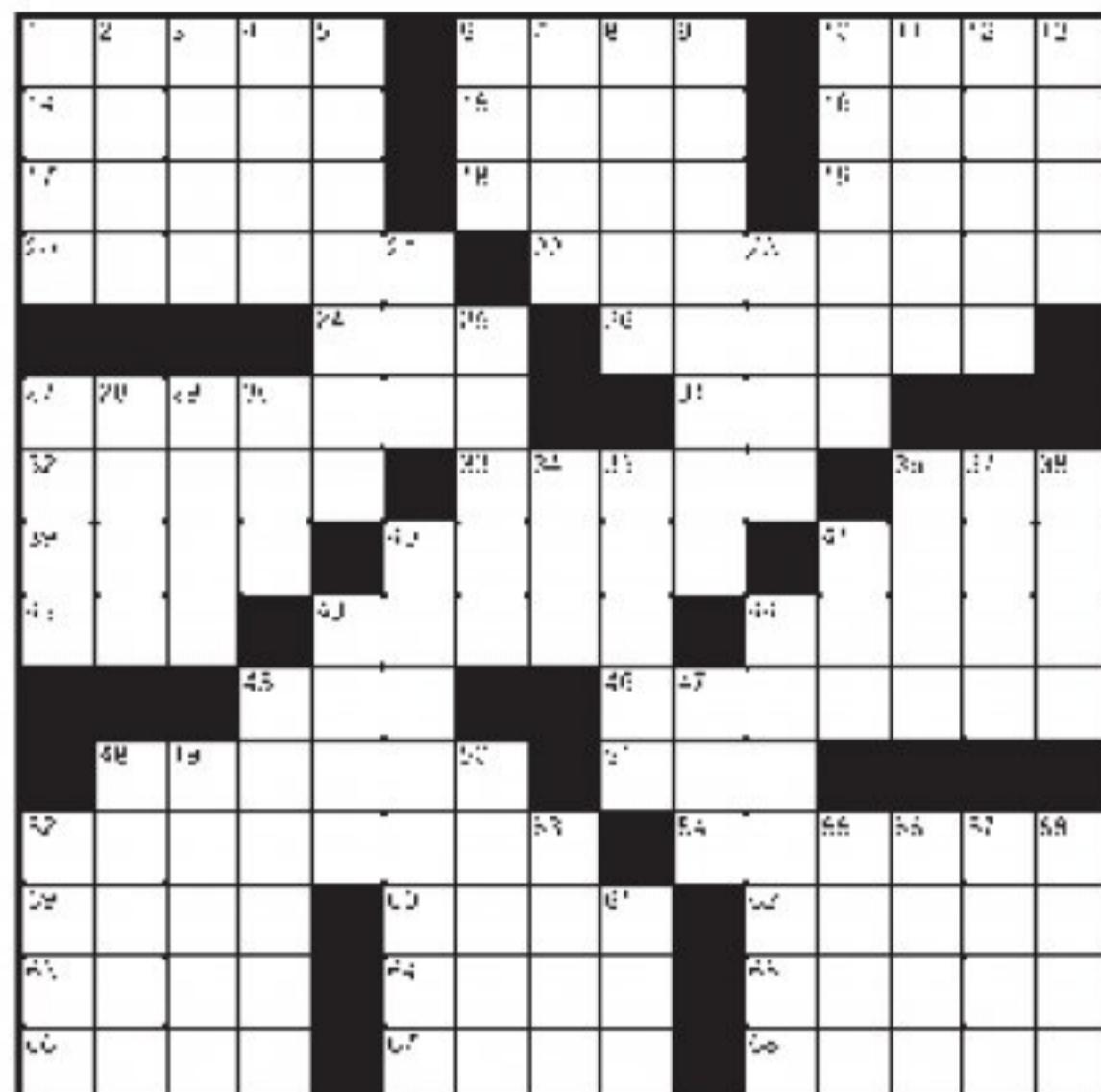
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 - 6 - nelson
 - 10 Auntie of fiction
 - 14 Maureen of the screen
 - 15 Horror-film servant
 - 16 Lemony
 - 17 Washington waterway
 - 18 Franc's replacer
 - 19 Singer – Hendryx
 - 20 Polished
 - 22 Wavelength unit
 - 24 Size above med.
 - 26 Trip to the top
 - 27 Apples or potatoes
 - 31 Sidekick
 - 32 Priggish
 - 33 Bwana, in India
 - 36 Consumer org.
 - 39 Hop, skip or jump
 - 40 Ruffly front
 - 41 Corrida sight
 - 42 Frat letter
 - 43 Type of canoe
 - 44 Slinky toy shape
 - 45 Dickens
 - 46 Green science
 - 48 Dirty politics
 - 51 Bottom line
 - 52 Joking around
 - 54 Crown
 - 59 Costa –

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- Down**
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 - 3 "Othello" heavy
 - 4 Black-and-white snack
 - 5 Clanked
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 - 67 Bristle with
 - 68 Buy a round

- 7 Water, in Madrid
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35 Phonies it up
36 String tie
37 Tar's jug
38 Too squared off
40 Flashiest
41 Util. bill
43 Zen riddle
44 Most cozy
45 Obey a caveat
47 Heifer's mouthful
48 Slug's trail
49 Slow train
50 – nous
52 Riding whip
53 Concert proceeds
55 Maintain
56 Mince
57 Singer James
58 Sail support
61 Take it on the --

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easy

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hard

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metro.us/horoscopes



Aries Make romance, health and children your priorities. Your actions will be what counts when it comes to your personal life. Don't take on unnecessary responsibilities.



Taurus Don't feel the need to take on too much responsibility over the holiday season. You owe it to your family to spend some downtime with them.



Gemini Tie up unfinished business. Stay focused on building strong relationships with the people who can influence your future. Make romance a priority.



Cancer Socializing with friends is encouraged, as long as you aren't indulgent. A discussion with a personal or professional partner will turn sour.



Leo Do something special. Make travel plans or engage in something unique that will enlighten you and bring you closer to making an important decision.



Virgo Take care of any year-end tasks that an older relative is having trouble doing. It will end up being fulfilling for you, and the thanks you receive will be worth your while.



Libra Keep your life simple and refuse to overspend just to appease someone. You cannot buy love or forgiveness. Truth and genuine concern will win someone over.



Scorpio Offering your time to help a cause you believe in is fine, but don't feel you have to pay for others' problems or mistakes. Charity begins at home.



Sagittarius Make changes at home that will add to the year-end festivities. Aim to bring joy to the people you love through gestures of kindness and small offers of gratitude.



Capricorn Moderation will be important. Whether shopping, socializing or engaging in robust conversation, keep in mind that life is simple until one opts to make it complex.



Aquarius A personal change will turn out better than anticipated. Make preparations that will help you head in the best direction possible. Express your feelings.



Pisces You can mix business with pleasure in order to form better alliances. Engaging in open discussion will help you advance.

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Yesterday's answers

E	I	N	G	C	U	L	H	F	A	T	O	N
L	I	M	H	A	L	D	A	L	U	L	E	
R	A	C	E	L	E	A	S	C	A	N	S	
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6
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